(v) Energy Audit and Conservation of Energy is being made compulsory which has become a priority in the present scarcity of availability of coal, oil, gas etc. so that the pollution is reduced and environment is improved.

Small industrial units in capital goods sector

3165. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Survey conducted by the Confederation of Indian Industry indicating that Small Industrial Units in the capital goods sector are suffering greately due to poor offtake from larger industrial units;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government towards such Survey;

(c) whether Government propose to take some steps for the benefit of Small Industrial Units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Govt. is aware of the 'Small Industries Business Out look' Survey report on the capital goods industry conducted by Confederation of Indian Industry during February, 1994.

(b) to (d) In order to give fillip to the indigenous capital goods industry and make them competitive, Govt. in its budget for 1994-95 has initiated number of measures which include:

(i) Levying of countervailing duty on the imported capital goods.

(ii) Extending the benefit of modvat.

(iii) Reduction in the import duty on the parts of capital goods.

(iv) Reduction in the custom duty on the import of steel and rationalisation of custom duty on the imported non-ferrous metals which are the basic inputs required for the capital goods industry.

Economic crisis in Khadi ad Village Industries

3166. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any critical assessment of the economic crisis prevailing in the Khadi and village industries to identify the causes of the ills and to ascertain the extent to which the objective of setting up the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has been achieved;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the short comings identified; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to retrieve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Govt. have constituted a High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to look into the problems being faced by the Khadi and Village Industries Sector. To suggest measures to augment investment by the Govt. in this sector and to ensure adequate and timely credit flow from the Commission, financial institutions and banks is also one of the terms of reference of the Committee. The Committee is expected to submit its report shortly and steps will be taken to implement the recommendations.

लघु और मझोले उद्योगों के लिये औद्योगिक नीति

3167. श्री राम नरेश यादव : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार उदारीकृत औद्योगिक लाइसेंस नीति को ध्यान में रखते हुए लघु और मझोले उद्योगों के लिए औद्योगिक नीति में परिवर्तन करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) सरकार इस संबंध में क्या परिवर्तन करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) सबसे छोटे उद्योगों को कौन-कौन सी सुविधाएं/रियायतें दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. अरूणाचलम) : (क) और (ख) लघु उद्योगों के लिए नीति, उदारीकरण की प्रक्रिया सहित समग्र औद्योगिक तथा आर्थिक नीतियों पर विचार करने के बाद अगस्त, 1991 में बनाई गई थी। इसलिए इस समय लघु उद्योगों के लिए औद्योगिक नीति में संशोधन करने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ग) अति लघु क्षेत्र की सहायता के लिए एक पृथक पैकेज तैयार किया जा रहा है।

Production of hand made paper

3168. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL: alias MEEM AFZAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of hand made paper is socially desirable because it is environment friendly, more labour intensive, less capital intensive and does not lead to depletion of natural resources; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government for promotion of the hand made paper industry and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. In the production of Handmade paper non-woody raw-materials such as cotton rags, tailor cuttings, trimming of handmade paper, agricultural residues are used. This is a labour intensive industry mostly established in rural areas.

(b) Steps have been taken for promotion of handmade paper industry as mentioned below:—

(1) Technical know-how has been provided.

(2) Excise and Sales Tax exemptions have been granted

(3) Government Departments have been requested to make purchases from KVI Units for their requirements of file covers made of handmade paper.

(4) KVIC has launched a project at Sanganer, Rajasthan, with the assistance of UNDP to produce high grade paper and export quality paper. Market surveys on HMP in USA and Canada have been done.

Amount of foreign investment

3169. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) which sectors had uppermost in foreign investment and which foreign countries are the biggest investors in India; and

(b) which States are leading in inviting foreign investment and in which sectors alongwith their percentage to the total foreign investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Sectors such as Hydro-carbons, power, Metallurgical Industries, Electronics and Electric Equipments, Chemicals, Engineering industries etc. are the uppermost in attracting foreign direct investment, during the post-policy period. The name of top ten countries in the list of foreign direct investment approved during the post-policy period are USA Switzerland, Japan, UK, Oman, Netherlands, UAE, Thailand, Germany and Mexico.

(b) No centralised data are maintained in this regard in the Ministry.